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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application of:

For:

Sumiyo TANAKA

IMAGE SEARCHING SYSTEM, IMAGE  
SEARCHING METHOD, AND A RECORDING  
MEDIUM STORING AN IMAGE SEARCHING  
PROGRAM

Confirmation No:

8382

U.S. Serial No.:

09/255,352

Filed:

February 23, 1999

Group Art Unit:

2177

Examiner:

Mohammad Ali

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Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

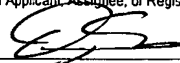
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in  
an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.  
O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on

July 22, 2004

Date of Deposit

Douglas A. Sorensen

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative



Signature

July 22, 2004

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) AND §1.98**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97,  
Applicant wishes to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. A copy  
of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant  
material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way  
reflects its relative pertinence.

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AND INTERFERENCES

Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

Submitted herewith is a copy of a Japanese Office Action, dated July 13, 2004, for counterpart Japanese Patent Application No. 10-41989. The Japanese Office Action cites the following references in the order listed below:

- (1) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application (A) 9-101970 (OMRON CORP), published April 15, 1997;
- (2) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application (A) 8-329099 (MINOLTA CO LTD), published December 13, 1996;
- (3) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application (A) 7-234877 (NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPH CORP), published September 5, 1995;  
and
- (4) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application (A) 5-242160 (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), published September 21, 1993.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e), it is hereby certified that each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of being first cited in a foreign communication in a counterpart foreign application. As this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing of the final Office Action under § 1.113, but before the receipt of a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, the required fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) for the submission of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260. The Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (three pages) is being filed in duplicate.

Serial No. 09/255,352

Respectfully submitted,



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